

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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NEA-10 AID-05 STR-07 COME-00 LAB-04 TRSE-00 OES-07
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INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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VIENNA FOR UNIDO

DEPARTMENT FOR IO/DHP:STEINER AND EB/IFD:WATSON

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UN, UNIDO

SUBJECT: UNIDO CONSTITUTION - THE NEXT STEPS

1. MISSION HAS NOW BEEN ABLE TO EXPLORE QUESTION OF NEXT STEPS ON UNIDO CONSTITUTION WITH A NUMBER OF G-77 AND WESTERN DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING JAMAICA, PAKISTAN, ALGERIA, FRG, NETHERLANDS AND UK.

2. ON GG77 SIDE, A CONSENSUS HAS DEVELOPED AS TO NEXT STEPS. THESE WOULD BE:

A) REPORT ON PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE TO MAY MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (OVERVIEW MECHANISM); DR. KHANE REPORTEDLY HAS INSISTED ON GIVING THIS IN PERSON (VIENNA COULD CONFIRM). G-77 AGREE, HOWEVER, THAT TIME WILL NOT PERMIT MUCH, IF ANY, DISCUSSION OF ITEM.

- B) DISCUSSION IN GREATER DEPTH AT JUNE MEETING OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OVERVIEW MECHANISM (TO BE HELD FOR AN UNDETERMINED DURATION BETWEEN JUNE 21 AND 30) WHICH INCLUDES "THE LIMA DECLARATION AND PLAN OF ACTION AND STRENGTHENING OF THE INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES" IN PROPOSED AGENDA. IT IS AT THIS MEETING THAT 77 WILL MOST LIKELY SEEK TO GAIN AGREEMENT TO KEY STEP IN PROCESS:
- C) NEGOTIATION, DURING THE 33RD GA AND IN SECOND

COMMITTEE CONTEXT, OF AGREEMENT ON REMAINING OUTSTANDING ISSUES. GIVEN STATE OF INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN "GROUP B" AND THEMSELVES AT END OF PLENIPOTENTIARY MEETING, PREVAILING G-77 VIEW IS THAT THIS PROCESS SHOULD NOT TAKE MORE THAN ONE OR TWO WEEKS. IT COULD BE FOLLOWED BY;
- D) A FINAL BRIEF PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE IN 1979, DURING WHICH DEFINITIVE DRAFT COULD BE PRODUCED AND OPENED FOR SIGNATURE. WHAT IS FORESEEN HERE, IN OTHER WORDS, IS ESSENTIALLY A "DRAFTING COMMITTEE" EXERCISE.

3. ALTHOUGH MISSION HAS NOT DISCUSSED QUESTION WITH MANY WESTERN DELS, FRG DEL HAS MADE THE POINT, BOTH TO OURSELVES AND TO NETHERLANDS MISSION, THAT THEY BELIEVE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD RESUME AGAIN IN VIENNA, AND ON BASIS OF VIENNA TEXT. MISOFF HAS SUGGESTED, ON A PERSONAL BASIS, THAT THE LATTER WOULD APPEAR QUITE UNLIKELY, REGARDLESS OF OUTCOME OF QUESTION OF REPORT. UK MISSION HAS NO INDICATION OF CURRENT LONDON THINKING BUT ASSUMES THAT PLENIPOTENTIARY MEETING WILL ONLY HAVE SERVED TO RECONFIRM HMG VIEW THAT TIME WORKS AGAINST AGREEMENT ON ACCEPTABLE TERMS, AND WOULD THEREFORE ACCEPT NEGOTIATIONS IN GA FRAMEWORK RESUMING ESSENTIALLY WHERE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE LEFT OFF. UK MISSION NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT EC WOULD COORDINATE ON ISSUE AND THAT FRG, FRANCE, ITALY AND BELGIUM MIGHT BE MORE CAUTIOUS.

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4. COMMENT: FROM THE ABOVE, THERE WOULD APPEAR TO BE TWO DECISIONS FACING USG. THE FIRST, NEEDED BY MID-JUNE, IS WHETHER TO AGREE WITH G-77 ON NEGOTIATION IN GA CONTEXT. THE SECOND, NEEDED BY MID-SEPTEMBER, ASSUMING WE ARE PREPARED TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS DURING 33RD GA, IS WHAT APPROACH DO WE TAKE IN THE RESUMED NEGOTIATIONS E.G., ARE WE PREPARED SIMPLY TO PICK UP WHERE MATTERS STOOD AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE.

5. ON THE FIRST, THE MISSION BELIEVES IT WOULD BE FRUITLESS TO PURSUE ANY OTHER ALTERNATIVE (SUCH AS A RETURN TO VIENNA) THAN RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS IN NEW YORK, UNLESS, OF COURSE, WE HAVE CHANGED OUR POSITION ON THE DESIRABILITY OF AN AGREEMENT AND WISH TO THROW UP AS MANY OBSTACLES AS POSSIBLE. BARRING THIS, MISSION RECOMMENDS INFORMING G-77, WEO'S AND EASTERN EUROPEANS IN A TIMELY MANNER OF OUR WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT GA APPROACH.

6. THE SECOND QUESTION IS CLEARLY ONE INVOLVING FACTORS BEYOND MISSION'S COMPETENCE. IT WILL BE NECESSARY,

HOWEVER, TO BEAR IN MIND NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES OF APPEARING TO RETREAT FROM POSITION WE HAD MOVED TO BY THE END OF THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE. IN ANY CASE, WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE OUR VIEWS, INCLUDING OUR "BOTTOM LINE" AND OUR RATIONALE THEREFORE, FULLY CLEAR TO OTHER WESTERN STATES, PARTICULARLY "HARDLINERS", WELL IN ADVANCE OF GA NEGOTIATIONS. YOUNG

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